

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Executive Directors

FROM: Helaine M. Barnett

DATE: September 2, 2005

SUBJECT: Hurricane Katrina

I know you are all concerned about the devastation from Hurricane Katrina and the enormous impact on the people affected including LSC programs, their staff and our now greatly expanded client communities. Yesterday afternoon we had a conference call with the Executive Directors of most of our grantees in the Gulf Coast region affected by Hurricane Katrina, as well as several Executive Directors from surrounding states and other national partners. LSC will be working closely with the affected programs in the states of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi to provide whatever assistance is necessary to ensure the continued provision of legal services to our client communities, many of whom have been displaced and are relocating to the neighboring states of Georgia, Tennessee and Texas.

LSC will be working with our grantees, the private bar, the federal government, the courts, other providers of services, the ABA and NLADA to coordinate the assistance needed to provide services in this crisis. I want to thank all of you who have contacted us and offered assistance to your colleagues. We are in the process of developing disaster relief plans that, among other resources, draw upon the generosity of those of you who have offered support. We will keep you informed of ways in which assistance can be shared with the affected programs. LSC stands ready to be a critical part of the recovery effort and to do whatever it takes to ensure the continued provision of legal services to those who, now more than ever, need our help.

I have asked Karen Sarjeant to be the coordinator of our efforts at LSC. She can be reached by email at ksarjeant@lsc.gov and by phone, (202) 295-1645.

I know that I speak on behalf of all of you in saying that those deeply affected by this tragedy will remain in our thoughts and prayers and we will do everything possible to assist them during this time.